



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)


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## The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 209, February 16, 2024

**Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor**

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active, but with a 5-week maximum.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

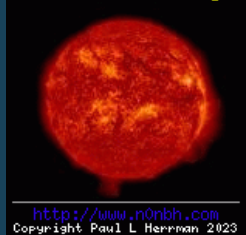
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](http://www.SpaceWeather.com), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



### Solar-Terrestrial Data

17 Feb 2024 1424 GMT  
 SFI:169 SN: 90  
 A-Index: 4  
 K-Index: 1  
 X-Ray: C1.8  
 304Å: 161.2 @ SEM  
 Ptn Flx: 284  
 Elc Flx: 10800  
 Aurora: 3/n=1.99  
 Mag (Bz): -0.4  
 Solar Wind: 323.1  
 Geomag Field VR QUIET  
 Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1  
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.norbh.com>  
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## DX News

**3B8, MAURITIUS.** David, OK6DJ will be active as **3B8/OK6DJ** from Mauritius Island (AF-049) from **February 20th to 27th**. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.  
 -[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0216-0301)

**3DA, KINGDOM OF ESOWATINI.** Hans, **3DAØAQ** has been QRV on 15 meters using digital modes between 1800 and 2000z. QSL via [EA5GL](#).  
 -[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

**5H, TANZANIA.** Sysa, OM4AYL will be QRV as **5H4AYL** from Pemba Island (AF-063) from **February 18th to 28th**. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8.

QSL to [OM4AYL](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0301)

**5R, MADAGASCAR.** Borut, S53BV will be QRV as **5R8BV** from Nosy Be (AF-057) from **February 17th to March 3rd**. Activity will be on the HF bands. This includes being an entry in the ARRL International DX CW (February 17th-18th) and upcoming ARRL DX SSB Contest (February 23rd-25th). QSL direct to [S53BV](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0308)

**5R, MADAGASCAR.** Eric, F6ICX is QRV as **5R8IC** until **March 31st**. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using mainly CW with low power. The last two weeks here will be spent being active on Satellite QO-100. QSL direct to [F6ICX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0308)

**5X, UGANDA.** Dick, W6TK will be active as **5X2G** on **February 12th-29th** while visiting family in Uganda. He will operate CW and FT8/FT4 and hopes to participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th) on a part time basis. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

**5X, UGANDA.** DJ6TF, DK1BT, DL4WK and DL7BO have been active as **5X7O** from Uganda since February 7th and will remain there until **February 19th**. They operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 160-10 meters. QSL via [DJ6TF](#), LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

**5X, UGANDA.** Alan, G3Xaq and Don, G3XTT will be active as **5X1XA** from Uganda on **February 12th-20th**. They will operate CW only, including an entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th). QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog and G3SWH's web site after the activity. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [G3SWH](#) (OQRS on <https://www.g3swh.org.uk/multiple-request.php>).

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0223)

**5X, UGANDA.** Paul, **5X4E** has been active on 20 meters using SSB around 1500z. QSL direct to [IZ3ZLG](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 18, 2024] (0119-0223)

**5Z, KENYA.** Martin, **5Z4PA** has been active on 20 meters using CW around 0200z. QSL via [MØURX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 18, 2024] (0119-0223)

**6W, SENEGAL.** Willy, ON4AVT will be QRV as **6W7/ON4AVT** from Warang from **February 3rd to April 16th**. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL to [ON4AVT](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0308)

**7P, LESOTHO.** Pista, HA5AO is QRV as **7P8AO** until **February 19th**. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0223)

**8R, GUYANA.** Callsign **8R7X** will be used by the **February 14th-24th** DXpedition to Guyana. Four young operators (Sven DJ4MX, Philipp DK6SP, Tomi HA8RT and Jamie MØSDV) will operate CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY on 160-6 meters. See <https://8r-2024.com/> for more information. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0209-0223)

**9K, KUWAIT.** Special callsign **9K9NLD** will be used by members of the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society to celebrate both Kuwait National Day (**February 25th**) and Liberation Day (**February 26th**). QSL via [EC6DX](#). Also joining the celebrations are expected to be the Saudi Amateur Radio Society as **HZ1KWT** on **February 19th-25th**; the Emirates Amateur Radio Society as **A6ØKWT** (QSL via [EA7FTR](#)) on **February 19th-27th**; the Bahrain

Amateur Radio Society as **A91KWT** (QSL via [EC6DX](#)) on **February 20th-26th**.  
-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0301)

**A2, BOTSWANA.** John, VK2NEN has lived in Botswana since 2011, and has no plans to leave the country in the near future. He has recently been licensed as **A2NEW**, and for the time being he is QRV typically between 1600 and 1900 UTC using a vertical whip mounted on his car. He hopes to install a quad antenna on his house and operate on 40-10m. QSL via [EA7FTR](#).  
-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0223)

**A3, TONGA.** Bob, W7Yaq as **A31DK** and Al, K7AR as **A31DL** will be active from Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu (OC-049), Tonga on **February 15th-27th**. QSL A31DK via [W7Yaq](#) or LoTW. QSL A31DL via [K7AR](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) or LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0301)

**A7, QATAR.** Max, ON5UR is QRV as **A71/ON5UR** from Doha **until February 24th**. QSL to [ON5UR](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

**CEØZ, JUAN FERNANDEZ IS.** An international team of seven (AB5EB, AD5A, N2IC, W8HC, HI3R, NP4G, and XQ3SK), supported by about 30 remote operators, will activate Robinson Crusoe Island (SA-001) from **February 10th to 24th**. QRV on 160-6m, including 60m, on CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. Their callsign will be **CBØZA**. Remote operation will be facilitated by an improved version of the Radio in a Box concept, called NexGenRiB, built by Gregg, W6IZT, Warren, KD4Z, and John, N4IHV, which weighs only 12kg and can easily be transported on an airplane. For the remote operation the callsign will be **CEØZEW**, which honors the memory of Marc, CE1EW, one of the organizers of the expedition who died in November; and it allows distinguishing between contacts made by the on-site team and the remote team, as IOTA rules do not allow remote contacts for IOTA awards. Ops on the island use WSJT-X F/H for FT8; remote ops use MSHV. They will also be active as **CBØZW** in the ARRL DX CW Contest (**February 17th-18th**). QSL via [N2OQ](#).  
-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0223)

**CE9, ANTARCTICA.** DK5HH, DL1TOG, and DO5JL will be active as **DPØGVN** from the German research station Neumayer III from **January 20th to early March**, mostly via QO-100. QSL via [DL5EBE](#).  
-[DXNL # 2389 January 17, 2024] (0119-0223)

**CE9, ANTARCTICA.** Felix, DL5XL will be active again as **DP1POL** from the German research station "Neumayer III" (AN-016) beginning **January 20th until early March**. In his spare time, he will operate mainly CW, with some digital modes and SSB. QSL via [DL1ZBO](#), LoTW, or [ClubLog's OQRS](#).  
-[425DXN # 1706 January 13, 2024] (0119-0223)

**DL, GERMANY.** Special callsign **DP9GLHN** will be used by members of DARC's Ortsverband Norderney from **February 1st to December 31st** to mark the 150th anniversary since the Norderney Island (EU-047) lighthouse was put into service. QSL via the bureau.  
-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

**DXCC TOP TWENTY.** Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of February 16, 2024:

- |         |                    |          |                                |
|---------|--------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| 1. P5   | DPRK (North Korea) | 11. 3Y/B | Bouvet Island                  |
| 2. BS7H | Scarborough Reef   | 12. ZS8  | Prince Edward & Marion Islands |
| 3. CEØX | San Felix Islands  | 13. KH4  | Midway Island                  |
| 4. BV9P | Pratas Island      | 14. VKØM | Macquarie Island               |
| 5. KH7K | Kure Island        | 15. PYØS | Saint Peter And Paul Rocks     |
| 6. KH3  | Johnston Island    | 16. KP5  | Desecheo Island                |
| 7. FT/G | Glorioso Island    | 17. VPØS | South Sandwich Islands         |

8. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	18. KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
9. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	19. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
10. YVØ	Aves Island	20. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF February 16, 2024] (0216-0301)

**EA, SPAIN.** Commemorating the 44th anniversary of the 1980 referendum for autonomy and representing the provinces of Andalusia, eight special callsigns will be activated on **February 22nd-28th**: **AN44AL** (Almeria), **AN44CA** (Cadiz), **AN44CO** (Cordoba), **AN44GR** (Granada), **AN44HU** (Huelva), **AN44JA** (Jaen), **AN44MA** (Malaga), **AN44SE** (Sevilla). In addition, **AN44AND** will be active on **February 28th** (Andalusia Day). A number of certificates will be available, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/an44and> for information.

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0216-0301)

**EA, SPAIN.** Special callsigns **AO1WRD**, **AO2WRD**, **AO3WRD**, **AO4WRD**, **AO5WRD**, **AO6WRD** (Balearic Islands), **AO7WRD**, **AO8WRD** (Canary Islands) and **AO9WRD** (Ceuta and Melilla) are expected to be active on **February 9th-18th** in celebration of World Radio Day. World Radio Day was proclaimed in 2011 by the Member States of UNESCO and adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012 as an International Day. This year's theme is "Radio: A century informing, entertaining and educating". QSL for all callsigns direct to EA3RKF: Federacion Digital EA, Apartado Postal 3050, 08200 Sabadell (Barcelona), Spain.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

**EA, SPAIN.** In celebration of World Radio Day (February 13th) and the 100th anniversary of the start of regular radio broadcasting in Spain, special callsign **AO1ØØRADIO** will be active on **February 1st-29th**. This activity is taking place as part of the celebrations for the 75th anniversary of the Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles, Spain's IARU member society. QSL via [EA4URE](http://EA4URE) (bureau preferred).

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0302)

**EP, IRAN.** Mohammed, **EP5MMS** is often active on 20 meters using SSB around 1200 to 1300z. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 25, 2024] (0126-0301)

**F, FRANCE.** Francois, F8DVD will be active as **TM21AAW** on **February 4th-18th**, to promote the 21st Antarctic Activity Week (February 18th-25th). He will be QRV from his home QTH in France. QSL via LoTW, or via [F8DVD](http://F8DVD).

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0202-0223)

**F, FRANCE.** Members of Radio Club Jean Bart, F6KMB will be active as **TM6C** on **February 4th-18th** during the traditional Dunkirk Carnival (Carnaval de Dunkerque). QSL via [F6KMB](http://F6KMB).

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0202-0223)

**FM, MARTINIQUE.** Yuri, VE3DZ will be active as **FM/VE3DZ** from Martinique (NA-107) on **February 13th-21st**. He will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th) as TO4A. QSLs via [ClubLog's QQRS](http://ClubLog's%20QQRS), or via [VE3DZ](http://VE3DZ).

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

**FR, REUNION I.** Thierry, FY4JI, will be active as **FR4AV** from **February 4th to March 11th** on 40-10m (CW, SSB). QSL via [EA5GL](http://EA5GL).

-[DXNL # 2391 January 31, 2024] (0202-0308)

**FW, WALLIS & FUTUNA IS.** Stan, LZ1GC and Ted LZ5QZ will be active as **FW8GC** and **TX8GC** from Wallis Island (OC-054) from **February 19th to March 9th**. They will operate CW, SSB, FT8, FT4 and maybe some RTTY on 160-6m. See <https://www.c21gc.com/> for



more information. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), LoTW, or via [LZ1GC](#).

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0216-0308)

**FY, FRENCH GUYANA.** Larry, F6FVY will be QRV as **FY5KE** in the ARRL DX CW Contest (**February 17th-18th**) as a Single Op/Single Band on 15 meters entry. QSL direct to [F6FVY](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

**H4, SOLOMON IS.** Bernhard, DL2GAC will be active again as **H44MS** from Malaita (OC-047), Solomon Islands from around **February 10th until April 25th**. He will be QRV daily, with activity on 160-6 meters SSB and some FT8. QSL via [DL2GAC](#), direct or bureau. He will upload his log to ClubLog and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0315)

**H40, TEMOTU PROVINCE.** The Intrepid DX Group's DXpedition to Pigeon Island (OC-065), Temotu Province is set to take place from **February 22nd to March 7th**. Look for team **H40WA** (Rob N7QT, Paul N6PSE, Scott NE9U, Jay K4ZLE, Jay AC7DC, Bruce K3NQ, Don N6JRL and David AH6HY) to operate CW, SSB and FT8 (F/H) on 160-6 meters with up to 5-6 stations. While on the island, the team will post frequent updates to their Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/h40wa>). See <https://intrepid-dx.com/h40wa/> for the detailed QSL policy. QSL via [M0URX](#)'s OQRS.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0308)

**HC, ECUADOR.** Rick, NE8Z is QRV as **HC1MD/2**. He is generally active from 0100 to 0300z and will soon be QRV on 160 meters using FT8. QSL via [K8LJG](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

**HK, COLOMBIA.** Matt, KC1XX will be QRV as **HK4RCA**, or possibly **5K4X**, in the ARRL DX CW Contest (**February 17th-18th**) as a Single Op/All Band/Low Power entry. Depending on local conditions, he may be active as a Single Band entry on either 15 or 10 meters. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

**HL, SOUTH KOREA.** Operators 6K2BYF, 6K2CFI, 6K2GRX and DS1TUW will be QRV as **DT0IP** from Anmyon Island (AS-080) from **February 17th to 19th**. They will use CW, SSB, and FT8 on 40 to 10 meters with two stations. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [6K2CFI](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

**HS, THAILAND.** Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand, RAST members will be active as **HS60RAST** from **February 10th to March 10th**. QSL via [HS6MYW](#).

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0315)

**HZ, SAUDI ARABIA.** Members of the Saudi Amateur Radio Society (HZ1SAR) are active as **7Z3FD**, **8Z3FD** and **HZ3FD** on **February 14th-22nd**. The special call signs celebrate Saudi Arabia's Founding Day (February 22nd).

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0223)

**J5, GUINEA-BISSAU.** Livio, IZ3BUR is QRV as **J52EC**. Activity is in his spare time mostly on 10 meters using SSB around 1500 to 1600z. QSL direct to [IZ3BUR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0301)

**J8, ST. VINCENT.** Franco, **J88BTI** is generally QRV on 160 to 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

**JY, JORDAN.** Nart, **JY5IB** has been active on 30 meters using FT8 around 0300 to 0400z. QSL direct to [JY5IB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 18, 2024] (0119-0223)

**K, UNITED STATES.** Special callsign **W7P** marks the Northern Arizona DX Association's 10-year special event countdown to the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Pluto by Clyde Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona (February 18, 1930). The inaugural event was held in 2021; this year's Pluto Anniversary Countdown will run on **February 10th-18th**. Also, Doug Tombaugh (N3PDT), Clyde Tombaugh's nephew, will be operating during the event as **W7P/Ø**. QSL direct to [W7P](https://www.nadxa.com/w7p_pluto_2030.html), see [https://www.nadxa.com/w7p\\_pluto\\_2030.html](https://www.nadxa.com/w7p_pluto_2030.html) for information.  
-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0223)

**KP2, VIRGIN IS.** N9TTK, NE9U, and W9RE will be operating the ARRL DX CW Contest (**February 17th-18th**) together as **NP2X**. QSL via [KU9C](https://www.ku9c.com).  
-[DXNL # 2393 February 14, 2024] (0216-022)

**OE, AUSTRIA.** Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Rhein Ruhr DX Association (<https://rrdxa.org/>), Jorg, OE6VIE is active as **OE6ØRRDXA** until **June 30th**. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](https://www.clublog.com) and LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0119-0223)

**OX, GREENLAND.** Look for **OX5DM**, **OX7AKT** and **OX7AM** to be active from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland (NA-018) on **February 13th-22nd**. Alex, OX7AM will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th), while OX5DM and OX7AKT will operate FT8 and SSB. QSL OX7AKT and OX7AM via [OZ1ACB](https://www.oz1acb.com), LoTW, or [ClubLog's OQRS](https://www.clublog.com). QSL OX5DM via [OZ1ACB](https://www.oz1acb.com) or [ClubLog's OQRS](https://www.clublog.com).  
-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0223)

**OZ, DENMARK.** A large group of operators will be QRV as **OZ5W** as a Multi/2 entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (**February 17th-18th**). QSL via LoTW.  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

**P4, ARUBA.** John, W2GD will be QRV as **P44W** from Santa Cruz from **February 12th to 20th**. Activity will be on all bands, with an emphasis on 30, 17, and 12 meters, using CW as time permits. This includes being a Single Op/All Band entry in the upcoming ARRL DX CW contest (February 17th-18th). QSL via [N2MM](https://www.n2mm.com).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0223)

**PACIFIC TOUR.** Hrane, YT1AD and his team (Anatoliy RC9O, Olga UA9OLY and Stevan YU3AA) will be active from Fiji (3D2), Samoa (5W) and Tonga (A3) as follows:  
**February 10th-19th, 5W, Samoa**

**5W8A** (YT1AD)  
**5WØAA** (YU3AA)  
**5WØLY** (UA9OLY)  
**5WØRC** (RC9O)

**February 20th-27th, A3, Tonga**

**A35AD** (YT1AD)  
**A35AA** (YU3AA)  
**A35LY** (UA9OLY)  
**A35RC** (RC9O)

**February 27th - March 1st, 3D2, Fiji**

**3D2AD** ([YT1AD](https://www.yt1ad.com))  
**3D2AB** ([YU3AA](https://www.yu3aa.com))  
**3D2LY** ([UA9OLY](https://www.ua9oly.com))  
**3D2RC** ([RC9O](https://www.rc9o.com))

QSL via home calls.

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0301)

**PJ7, SINT MAARTEN.** Gary, KC9EE will be active again as **PJ7EE** from Sint Maarten (NA-105) from **February 21st to March 6th**. He will operate mainly CW, with SSB during the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 2nd-3rd). He will be looking for openings towards Asia

especially on 17-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or direct to [KC9EE](#).  
-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0308)

**PJ7, SINT MAARTEN.** Fabian, DM7HG and Paul, DM2PF will be active holiday style from Sint Maarten (NA-105) on **February 15th-28th**. They will be QRV on 20, 15 and 10 meters as either **PJ7/DM7HG** and **PJ7/DM2PF** or a PJ7 callsign if they can get one.  
-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

**PY, BRAZIL.** Team **ZY5A** will be active from Ilha do Arvoredo (SA-027) on **February 16th-18th** during the American Lighthouses Weekend. They will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on various bands from 160 to 10 meters. QSL via [PP5EI](#).  
-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0223)

**PZ, SURINAME.** Dimitri, RA3CO is QRV as **PZ5DX** from Lelydorp. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0322)

**SM, SWEDEN.** Celebrating the Scandinavian CW Activity Group's 50th anniversary, special callsign **SC5ØAG** will be active **during February**. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau and LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0301)

**TA, TURKEY.** Special callsign **TC6EQ** will be active on **February 1st-29th** to commemorate the earthquake that struck Turkey on February 6, 2023, causing widespread damage, and killing nearly 51,000 people. In particular, this activity will honor the memory of Mustafa Ezer (TA8DX), who lost his life in that catastrophic event. A certificate will be available on <https://tadx.org/awards>. QSL via LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0126-0301)

**TF, ICELAND.** Chuck, KC4KQE will be active as **TF/KC4KQE** from Iceland on **February 17th-26th**. He will operate SSB and FT8, with plans "to attempt multiple POTA and SOTA activations" during the local daylight hours (0930-1800 UTC).  
-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0301)

**TY, BENIN.** Antonio, IK7WUL is active as **TY2AA** **until February 20th** while on a humanitarian mission to Benin. In his spare time, he operates SSB only. QSL via [IZ8CCW](#) and LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

**V2, ANTIGUA & BARBUDA.** Chuck, KG9N is QRV as **V26CV** from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, **until February 20th**. Activity is on various bands using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide WPX RTTY contest (February 10th to 11th) and the upcoming ARRL DX CW contest (February 17th-18th). QSL to [KG9N](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0223)

**V3, BELIZE.** Uwe, DL8UD will be active again as **V31KO** from Belize from **February 15th to March 6th**. He will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on 160-6 meters, and will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th), the CQ WW 160-Meter SSB Contest (February 23rd-25th) and the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 2nd-3rd) as V3O. QSL for both callsigns via [DL8UD](#), bureau or direct.  
-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0308)

**V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS.** Once again John, W5JON will be active as **V47JA** from St. Kitts (NA-104) on **February 17th-27th**. He will operate SSB and FT8 on the HF bands and 6 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct only to [W5JON](#).  
-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0216-0301)

**V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS.** Bob, WX4G, operates as **V47RB** from **February 13th to 20th**. QSL via [WX4G](#).

-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0223)

**V5, NAMIBIA.** Frank, DL7ATA is QRV as **V5/DL7ATA** until March 23rd. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB in his evening hours. QSL to DL7ATA.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0315)

**V8, BRUNEI.** Hajime, JO1RUR will be QRV as **V85RH** as a Single Op/All Band/High Power entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th). QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

**VK, AUSTRALIA.** Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Islands On The Air program, special event callsign **VI6ØIOTA** will be in use across Australia during 2024: "whenever VI6ØIOTA is heard on the air", the organizers say, "it will be from one of the VK IOTA entities", including the main islands of Australia (OC-001) and Tasmania (OC-007).

Andrey, VK5MAV is using the callsign during part of his current VK5MAV/4 activity from Magnetic Island (OC-171), and team VK5FIL will also operate VI6ØIOTA during part of their April 14th-21st expedition to Flinders Island (OC-261). QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website; traditional QSLs via [MØQXO's OQRS](#). Updates and information about the certificates that will be available for working VI6ØIOTA will be posted to <https://www.qrz.com/db/VI60IOTA>.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

**VP9, BERMUDA.** Darrell, AB2E will be active as **AB2E/VP9** from Bermuda (NA-005) on February 14th-19th, including an entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th) as VP9I. Outside the contest he will operate mainly CW, with some FT8 and a focus on 30, 17 and 12m. QSL AB2E/VP9 via [AB2E](#), VP9I via [WW3S](#).

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0223)

**VU, INDIA.** Members of the Bengal Amateur Radio Society (namely VU2AES, VU2DLU, VU2GMT, VU2GOR, VU2SFM, VU2ZOC, VU3DBA, VU3UEP, VU3XCR and VU3ZHZ) will be active as **AT8BRS** from a few islands in IOTA group AS-153 from February 17th to 21st as follows: Ghoramara (February 17th), Agnimari Char and Suparbhangra (February 18th), Jambudwip (February 19th), Lothian (February 20th) and Bulcherry (February 21st, if time permits). They will operate SSB on or around 7140, 14240, 24280 and 28485 kHz, as well as FT8 on 14074 and 21074 kHz.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0223)

**XU, CAMBODIA.** Yoshi, **XU7AKJ** is QRV from Phnom Penh and has been active on 10 meters using FT8 from 0200 to 0700z. QSL via [JA3ULS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

**YO, ROMANIA.** Celebrating the 95th anniversary of the first amateur radio association in Romania's Arad County, special callsigns **YR95AR**, **YR95CC**, **YR95CH**, **YR95IN**, **YR95LI**, **YR95PE** and **YR95SE** will be active from February 16th until May 31st. The event is being organized by C.S. Radioclub Admira (YO2KBQ), the successor of the club that was established almost a century ago. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/YR95AR> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0322)

**ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS.** Martin, MWØBRO is QRV as **ZC4GW** during 2024. QSL to [MWØBRO](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 25, 2024] (0126-0301)

**ZD7, ST. HELENA.** Oliver, W6NV has been active again as **ZD7W** from St. Helena Island (AF-022) since February 15th and will remain there until February 23rd. He will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th), after which he will be available for DX contacts with a focus on 160, 80 and 40 meters CW. Information on the operating schedule will be posted to <https://www.qrz.com/db/ZD7W>. QSL direct to [W6NV](#).

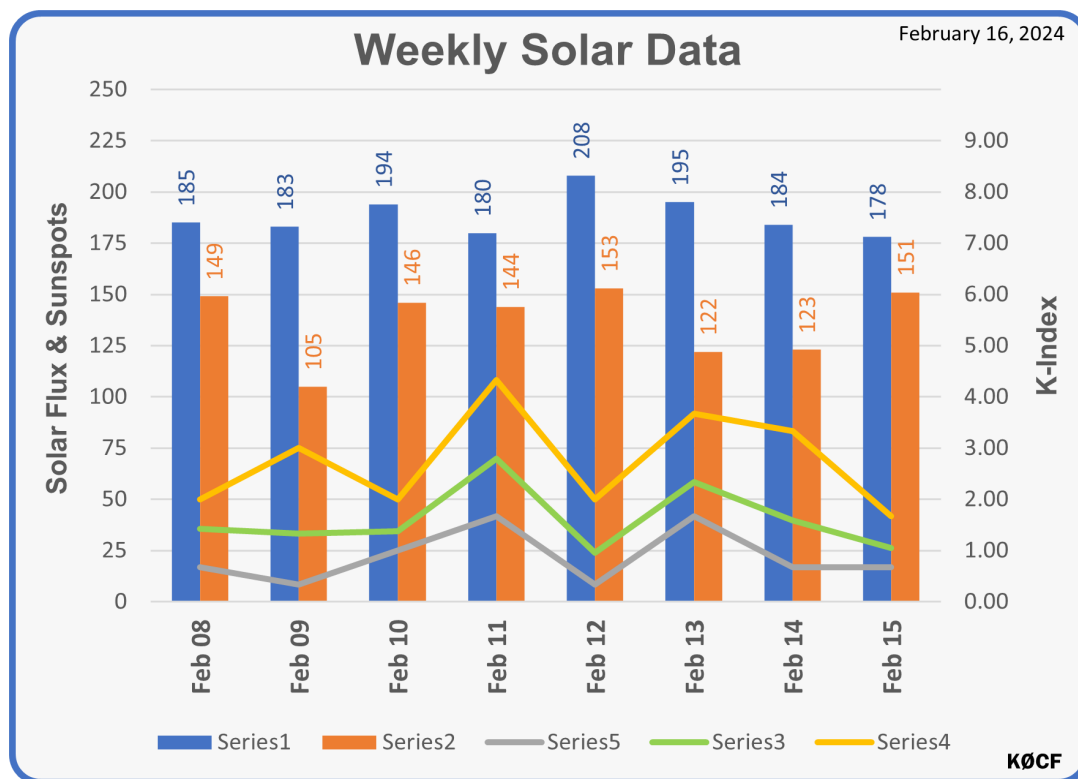
-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0223)



**ZF, CAYMAN IS.** Bill, W5SJ is QRV as **ZF2EZ** from Cayman Brac using CW and QRP power. He will be active as **ZF5T** in the ARRL DX CW Contest (**February 17th-18th**). QSL to [W5SJ](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 15, 2024] (0216-0223)

## Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (K-Idx) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

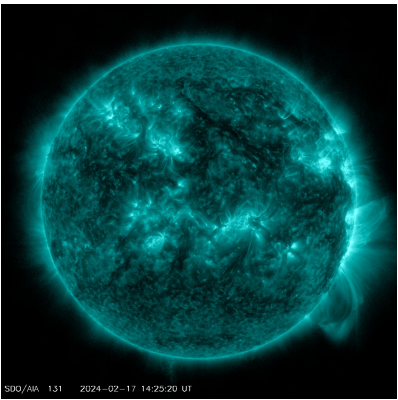
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

*Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.*

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



**Propagation Summary**

For the 8 day period from Thursday, February 8th through yesterday, February 15th.

The average solar flux was 189, up 17 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 208 on Monday, February 12th, followed by a low of 178 on February 15th.

The average sunspot count was 135, down by 13 from last week, peaking at 153 on Monday, February 12th after a weekly low of 105 on February 9th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 2.8 with a maximum of 4.3 on Sunday, February 11th, resulting in generally quiet geomagnetic conditions.

Solar flare activity since February 8th has been extremely high with 20 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 3.3 event on Friday, February 9th.

**Propagation Data**

Major solar flares, Thursday, February 8th through 1402 UTC, February 16th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Feb 16	0653	X 2.5
2	Feb 16	0251	M 1.5
3	Feb 15	1707	M 1.8
4	Feb 14	0735	M 1.0
5	Feb 14	0310	M 1.0
6	Feb 12	2117	M 2.6
7	Feb 12	1548	M 1.4
8	Feb 12	1308	M 1.1
9	Feb 12	0348	M 6.5
10	Feb 11	2245	M 1.0
11	Feb 10	2307	M 9.0
12	Feb 10	0354	M 3.4
13	Feb 10	0051	M 1.5
14	Feb 09	1800	M 1.2
15	Feb 09	1314	X 3.3
16	Feb 08	2355	M 3.9
17	Feb 08	1902	M 1.3

18	Feb 08	1523	M 1.8
19	Feb 08	1418	M 1.2
20	Feb 08	1312	M 3.4

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Feb 16	55%	15%	175
Feb 17	55%	15%	170
Feb 18	35%	5%	165

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on February 12, 2024).

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 16	175	2
Feb 17	165	2
Feb 18	160	2
Feb 19	160	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 20	160	2
Feb 21	160	2
Feb 22	165	2
Feb 23	160	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 24	150	2
Feb 25	150	2
Feb 26	150	3
Feb 27	150	3

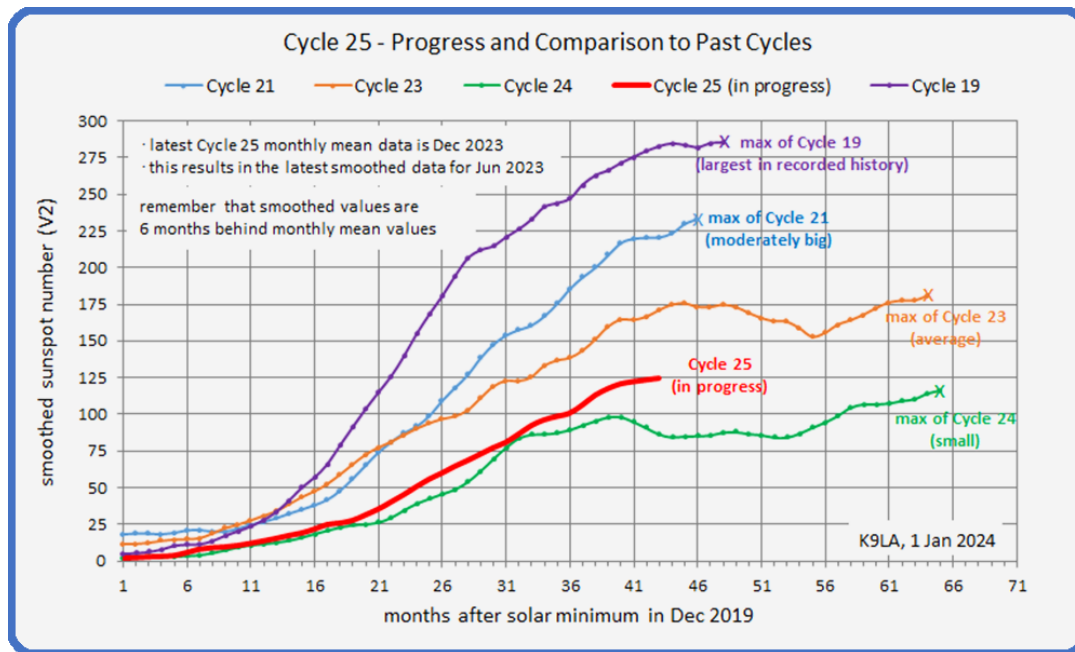
## Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023.

Sunspots: 227 on July 11, 2023.

## Cycle 25 vs. Past Cycles

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA (an acknowledged propagation expert) has created this graph showing Cycle 25 progress as compared to a few past Solar Cycles. It is very interesting to see that Cycle 25 is a very modest iteration, providing some good but not great propagation on the HF bands.



## Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.net/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

## A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters.

However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

# Contest Calendar

## Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000Z is Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central time zone.

## Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
YLRL YL-OM Contest	Feb 17	0000Z	Feb 18	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW</b>	Feb 17	0000Z	Feb 18	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 23	2200Z	Feb 25	2159Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 24	1800Z	Feb 25	0600Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North Carolina QSO Party	Feb 25	1500Z	Feb 26	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Worldwide Patagonia DX Contest	Feb 25	0000Z	Feb 25	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB</b>	Mar 2	0000Z	Mar 3	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Mar 2	1800Z	Mar 3	1359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
YB DX RTTY Contest	Mar 9	0000Z	Mar 9	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 9	1400Z	Mar 10	2100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 9	1500Z	Mar 10	1500Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 9	1900Z	Mar 10	1900Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 10	0000Z	Mar 10	0359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 10	1800Z	Mar 11	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 16	0200Z	Mar 18	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Russian DX Contest	Mar 16	1200Z	Mar 17	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Mar 24	0000Z	Mar 24	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB</b>	Mar 30	0000Z	Mar 31	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 6	1400Z	Apr 7	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
SP DX Contest	Apr 6	1500Z	Apr 7	1500Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
JIDX CW Contest	Apr 13	0700Z	Apr 14	1300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>



New Mexico QSO Party	Apr 13	1400Z	Apr 14	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Georgia QSO Party	Apr 13	1800Z	Apr 14	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Holyland DX Contest	Apr 19	2100Z	Apr 20	2100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
YU DX Contest	Apr 20	0700Z	Apr 21	0659Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
CQMM DX Contest	Apr 20	0900Z	Apr 21	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Michigan QSO Party	Apr 20	1600Z	Apr 21	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Ontario QSO Party	Apr 20	1800Z	Apr 21	1800Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 21	1800Z	Apr 21	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	Apr 27	0001Z	Apr 28	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
SP DX RTTY Contest	Apr 27	1200Z	Apr 28	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Helvetia Contest	Apr 27	1300Z	Apr 28	1259Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Florida QSO Party	Apr 27	1600Z	Apr 28	2159Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	May 4	0001Z	May 5	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 4	1300Z	May 5	0700Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Indiana QSO Party	May 4	1600Z	May 5	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Delaware QSO Party	May 4	1700Z	May 5	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
New England QSO Party	May 4	2000Z	May 5	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 11	1200Z	May 12	1159Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 18	1200Z	May 19	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Arkansas QSO Party	May 18	1400Z	May 19	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Baltic Contest	May 18	2100Z	May 19	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) ]